ANNUAL REPORT FOR 2009

Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site
Beaufort County
TIP No. R-2510B

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North Carolina Department of Transportation
August 2009

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SUMMARY

The Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site is located in Beaufort County. The site was planted in March 2008 and was designed as mitigation for wetland impacts associated with roadway project R-2510B Washington Bypass.

The mitigation encompasses approximately 0.6 acres of wetland restoration and 3.5 acres of wetland preservation. The restoration effort involved grading the property to an elevation that approximates the adjacent wetlands, and then ripping the site to promote vegetation re-establishment. The site was then planted with bottomland hardwood species and will be monitored to ensure that it meets the vegetation success criteria. No hydrologic monitoring is required for this project; however, vegetation monitoring is required for three years.

There was one vegetation monitoring plot established throughout the 0.6 acre planting area. The 2009 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed an average tree density of 631 trees per acre.

NCDOT will continue vegetation monitoring at the Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Project Description

The Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site is located in Beaufort County. The site is located adjacent to the US 17 Washington Bypass and consists of approximately 0.6 acres of wetland restoration and 3.5 acres of wetland preservation for impacts associated with project R-2510B.

1.2 Purpose

In order for a mitigation site to be considered successful, a site must meet vegetation success criteria. This report details the vegetation monitoring in 2009 at the Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site. Hydrologic monitoring was not required for the site.

1.3 Project History

March 2008	Site Planted
July 2008	Vegetation Monitoring (1 year)
August 2009	Vegetation Monitoring (2 year)

2.0 VEGETATION: OSPREY SEAFOOD MITIGATION SITE (YEAR 2 MONITORING)

2.1 Success Criteria

Success Criteria states that the Osprey Seafood mitigation site shall be monitored for three years. The NCDOT shall submit an annual summary report at the end of each of the first two years after the completion of the project. The report shall discuss the sites vegetative and hydrologic changes. This report can be qualitative in nature, and is in lieu of the usual quantitative hydrology and success criteria. At the end of the third year after project completion, the NCDOT will coordinate a field visit to the site, at which time the DWQ will determine the success of the mitigation, and the site may be declared successful with written approval from the NC Division of Water Quality. If, at the end of the three year monitoring period, the NC Division of Water Quality decides that the success cannot be determined or has not been achieved, then the NCDOT will coordinate field visits on an annual basis until the NCDWQ is satisfied that the site is successful.

2.2 Description of Species

The following wetland species were planted in the Wetland Restoration Area:

Taxodium distichum, Baldcypress

Quercus lyrata, Overcup Oak

Quercus michauxii, Swamp Chestnut Oak

Nyssa aquatica, Water Tupelo

Fraxinus pennsylvanica, Green Ash

Quercus laurifolia, Laurel Oak

2.3 Results of Vegetation Monitoring

Plot #	Baldcypress	Overcup Oak	Swamp Chestnut Oak	Water Tupelo	Green Ash	Laurel Oak	Total (Year 2)	Total (at planting)	Density (Trees/Acre)
1	10	12	2	11	4		39	42	631
Average Density (Trees/Acre)									631

Site Notes: A vegetation plot was set on site to determine if the Design/Build contractor would need to replant the site. We will continue to report this vegetation plot, even though the success criteria states that this report can be qualitative in lieu of the usual quantitative data. Other species noted on site included: fennel, red maple, woolgrass, sycamore, black willow, baccharis, and cattail. Volunteer baldcypress and green ash trees were noted naturally sprouting up on site.

2.4 Conclusions

There is one vegetation monitoring plot established throughout the 0.6 acre planting area. The 2009 vegetation monitoring of the site revealed an average density of 631 trees per acre.

3.0 OVERALL CONCLUSIONS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

The following report summarizes the monitoring activities that have occurred in the past year for the Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site. Monitoring activities in 2009 represent the second year of monitoring for the site. The site must demonstrate vegetation success for a minimum of three years or until the site is deemed successful.

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NCDOT will continue vegetation monitoring at the Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site.

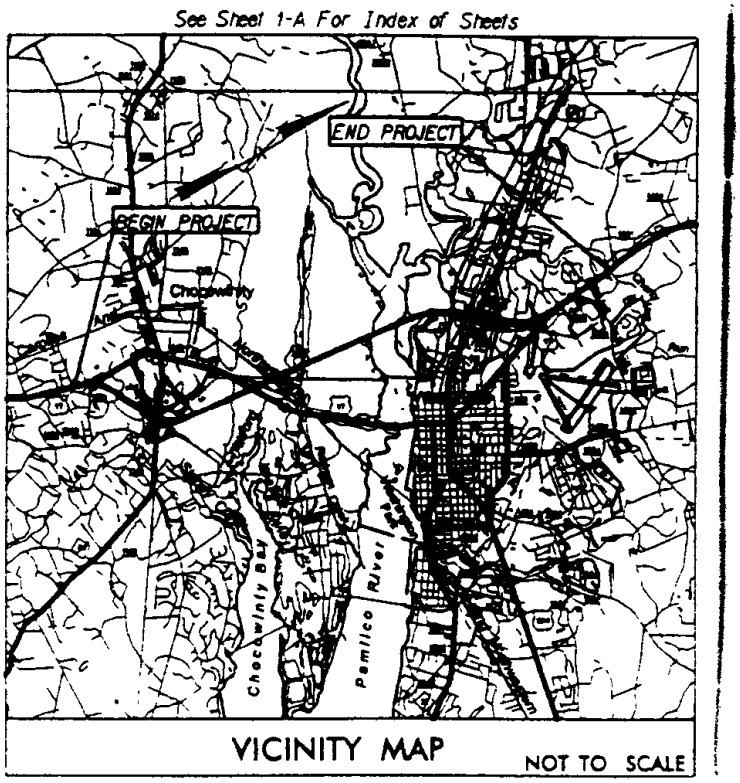

Figure 1. Site Location Map

APPENDIX A

SITE PHOTOS

Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site

Photo 1

Photo 2

Photo 3

August 2009

Osprey Seafood Mitigation Site

R-2510B

Beaufort County